

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6, 8-10, 17, 19, 23, 28-30 and 33 are all the claims pending in the application.

The Advisory Action mailed May 26, 2009 indicates that the Amendment filed April 27, 2009 was not entered because the amendments to the claims raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search by the Examiner and are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal. Specifically, in the “note”, the Examiner states that in the after final claim set, there are 35 U.S.C. § 2nd paragraph, issues regarding the exact rings for rings D and E. The Examiner further states that in the specification, the possible rings for these variables is open-ended.

Applicants submit that the proposed amendments to the claims do not change the definitions of rings D and E as set forth in the original claim set (see, e.g., original claim 7 and current claim 8 which is presented in its original form) as well as in the previous Amendment filed August 22, 2008, and, therefore, do not raise *new* issues that require further search and consideration.

Notwithstanding the above, without acquiescing in the merits of the Examiner’s position set forth in the Advisory Action mailed May 26, 2009, claims 1, 6 and 8 are amended to further define rings D and E based on the description in the specification at page 36, line 7 to page 37, line 10. No new matter has been added.

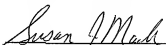
Accordingly, Applicants submit that the meaning and scope of the claims is clear and no 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph issues are presented.

Further, the present claims are patentable over the art for the reasons set forth in the Amendment filed April 27, 2009, which is incorporated herein by reference.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 29, 2009